

Prior law provided for an office of mental health and an office for addictive disorders within the Dept. of Health and Hospitals (DHH).

New law dissolves the office of mental health and the office for addictive disorders and transfers the administrative functions and purposes of both offices into a new consolidated office within DHH called the office of behavioral health.

New law provides for an implementation advisory committee (committee) within DHH and directs the committee to recommend to the secretary of DHH a specific plan for the implementation of the consolidated administrative functions of the office of behavioral health. The committee shall meet as needed and submit a report with final recommendations to the secretary no later than Jan. 31, 2010. The committee shall automatically dissolve on July 1, 2011.

New law requires DHH to submit to the House and Senate committees on health and welfare on September 1, 2010, and June 30, 2011, a written status report which details the progress of the implementation of the new law.

New law requires DHH to submit the implementation to the Senate and House committees on health and welfare, meeting jointly, on or before March 1, 2010. Action by the joint committee is limited to approval or disapproval of the plan in its entirety.

New law provides for membership of the implementation advisory committee to be composed of the following:

- (1) The secretary of DHH or his designee.
- (2) The assistant secretary of the office for addictive disorders or his designee.
- (3) The assistant secretary of the office of mental health or his designee.
- (4) One representative from the addictive disorder professional community chosen by the secretary from a list of names provided by the La. Commission on Addictive Disorders.
- (5) One representative from the mental health professional community, chosen by the secretary from a list of names provided by the La. Mental Health Planning Council.
- (6) One consumer of addictive disorder services, chosen by the secretary from a list of names provided by addictive disorder professional associations.
- (7) One consumer of mental health services, chosen by the secretary from a list of names provided by mental health professional associations.
- (8) One representative from the addictive disorder professional community, chosen by the speaker of the House of Representatives and the president of the Senate.
- (9) One representative from the addictive disorder professional community, chosen by the president of the Senate.
- (10) One representative from the mental health professional community, chosen by the speaker of the House of Representatives and the president of the Senate.
- (11) One representative from the mental health professional community chosen by the president of the Senate.
- (12) One representative selected by the Human Services Interagency Council who currently serves as the executive director of an existing human services district or authority.

New law gives the implementation advisory committee the authority to create subcommittees to assist in the development of recommendations for consolidation of the administrative

offices of mental health and addictive disorders and requires the implementation advisory committee to consider certain factors in developing its plan for recommendation to the secretary.

New law changes prior law by providing a 24-hour toll-free telephone service to provide information regarding available assistance for persons with compulsive or problem gambling behavior.

New law requires any patient who is given a urine drug screen in a state-operated outpatient or inpatient alcohol or drug abuse facility as part of his treatment to pay a copayment of not more than \$12 per screen to the provider of the screen if he is able to pay such a copayment based on a sliding fee scale. The office of behavioral health shall promulgate rules and regulations to establish the sliding fee scale and the patient's ability to pay.

Authorizes the La. State Law Institute to review the statutes containing phrases affected by new law and make appropriate changes in references.

Effective upon signature of the governor (July 6, 2009).

(Amends R.S. 28:21(A) and (B) and 771(A) and (B)(5)(c) and R.S. 36:251(C)(1) and 258(C); adds R.S. 28:4 and 771(B)(9) and (10); repeals R.S. 28:21(E) and R.S. 36:258(E))